

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00  
ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15  
STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 OIC-02 /099 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/FSE:MVCREEKMORE

APPROVED BY EB/ORF:SWBOSWORTH

-----141942Z 076684 /56

O 141928Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE  
INFO USLO RIYADH IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: PROCEDURAL SUGGESTIONS FOR CIEC ENERGY COMMISSION

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE SOONEST TO PETROMIN  
GOVERNOR ABDUL HADI TAHER (CIEC ENERGY COMMISSION  
CO-CHAIRMAN) FROM DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY STEPHEN W.  
BOSWORTH.

2. QUOTE: DEAR ABDUL HADI: PRIOR TO OUR RETURN TO  
PARIS, I WANTED TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH YOU INFORMALLY ON  
HOW WE COULD BEST PROCEED WITH OUR WORK IN THE ENERGY  
COMMISSION. I THINK IT WILL BE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT  
DURING THE FINAL PHASE OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AS WE SEEK TO REACH CONCLUSIONS  
SATISFACTORY TO ALL PARTICIPANTS, THAT YOU AND I  
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CONTINUE AND EVEN INTENSIFY THE CLOSE, CANDID, AND  
MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COOPERATION THAT HAS CHARACTERIZED  
OUR PAST ENDEAVORS IN CIEC. IN THIS CONTEXT, I WANTED  
TO SHARE THE FOLLOWING IDEAS WITH YOU.

3. I HAVE BEEN GIVING CONSIDERABLE THOUGHT TO THE  
MOST EFFICIENT MEANS FOR ADVANCING OUR WORK IN THE

ENERGY COMMISSION. I WONDER WHETHER CONTINUING THE

THE PROCESS BEGUN IN NOVEMBER OF USING THREE SEPARATE DRAFTING GROUPS TO WORK ON THE ISSUES OF SUPPLY, PRICE, AND COOPERATION IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO COMPLETE OUR WORK. AS OUR WORK IN THE COMMISSION OVER THE PAST YEAR HAS SHOWN, THESE MAJOR ISSUES CANNOT EASILY BE ISOLATED FROM EACH OTHER. FURTHERMORE, THERE IS A NORMAL TENDENCY IN DRAFTING GROUPS TO SPEND TOO MUCH TIME DEBATING FINE POINTS OF LANGUAGE RATHER THAN FOCUSING ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ISSUES AND THE AREAS OF CONVERGENCE AND DIVERGENCE.

4. I SUGGEST FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION THAT WE COMMENCE OUR RESUMED WORK WITH A SINGLE, ENLARGED CONTACT GROUP UNDER OUR PERSONAL DIRECTION. WHILE THIS GROUP COULD INCLUDE ALL MEMBERS OF THE ENERGY COMMISSION, EACH SIDE COULD HAVE A FEW DESIGNATED SPEAKERS. I WOULD RECOMMEND, HOWEVER, THAT THE PROCEDURES SHOULD BE VERY INFORMAL.

5. I SUGGEST THAT THIS ENLARGED GROUP DISCUSS CONSECUTIVELY THE KEY SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED IN THE COMMISSION. YOU AND I COULD AGREE ON THE LIST OF ISSUES DURING THE COURSE OF THE APRIL 26-28 CO-CHAIRMEN MEETING. AFTER THE GROUP HAD COMPLETED ONE ISSUE AND GONE AS FAR AS POSSIBLE IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON IT, WE COULD SEND TWO OR THREE PERSONS OFF TO DRAFT LANGUAGE THAT EMBRACED THE GROUP'S DECISIONS.

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(YOU AND I SHOULD, I THINK, SUMMARIZE THE DISCUSSION OF EACH ISSUE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE EXPLICIT GUIDANCE TO THE DRAFTERS OF WHAT WE EXPECT TO BE IN THEIR PAPER.) AFTER THE GROUP HAS COVERED ALL THE ISSUES, WE COULD CONSIDER THE PREPARED DRAFTS AND MAKE MODIFICATIONS AS REQUIRED. OUR OBJECTIVE WOULD, OF COURSE, BE TO PRODUCE TEXTS AS FREE OF BRACKETS AS POSSIBLE, TO BE FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE ENERGY COMMISSION AND SUBMITTED TO THE SENIOR OFFICIALS AND THEN TO MINISTERS.

6. IF YOU CONCUR WITH THESE PROCEDURAL SUGGESTIONS, I WOULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT WE MIGHT NOT WANT TO USE THE INFORMAL PAPERS PRODUCED BY THE THREE CONTACT GROUPS IN NOVEMBER AS A PRIMARY BASIS FOR OUR DISCUSSIONS. THEY WOULD NOT BE EXACTLY RELEVANT IF OUR DISCUSSION IN THE CONTACT GROUP FOLLOWS AN ISSUE-BY-ISSUE APPROACH. NEVERTHELESS, THE TEXTS PRODUCED BY THE CONTACT GROUPS IN NOVEMBER TOGETHER WITH THE VARIOUS PAPERS SUBMITTED BY THE TWO GROUPS WILL STILL BE USEFUL AND IMPORTANT

FOR OUR DISCUSSION, AND WE MIGHT WANT TO USE SOME OF  
THEIR LANGUAGE IN THE NEW DRAFTS WE WOULD PREPARE.

7. FINALLY, I BELIEVE WE CAN COMPLETE OUR WORK  
SOMEWHAT MORE EXPEDITIOUSLY THAN CALLED FOR IN THE  
APRIL 29-MAY 14 SCHEDULE FOR THE CONTACT GROUPS. I WOULD  
SUGGEST THAT WE AGREE TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF WORKING  
DAYS FOR THE WORK OF THE ENERGY COMMISSION FROM 14 TO 9 OR  
10. THERE ARE SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES OF HOW THIS COULD  
BE DONE. ONE POSSIBILITY WOULD BE TO START THE WORK OF  
THE ENERGY COMMISSION ON OR ABOUT MAY 4 AND CONCLUDE IT  
AS SCHEDULED ON MAY 14.

8. I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR REACTION TO MY  
SUGGESTIONS AND ANY THOUGHTS YOU HAVE ON OTHER PROCEDURAL  
AND SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS AFFECTING OUR FUTURE WORK. IT  
WOULD FACILITATE MY PLANNING IF I COULD RECEIVE YOUR  
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REPLY BEFORE I DEPART FOR PARIS ON APRIL 23.

9. IN CONCLUSION, I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING OUR  
CLOSE AND PRODUCTIVE COOPERATION IN PARIS. AS WE MOVE  
INTO THE FINAL PHASE OF CIEC, OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE  
A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN WORKING TO BRING ABOUT A  
SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO CIEC.

10. WITH WARMEST REGARDS, STEVE. END QUOTES.  
VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009